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Application No.: 08/943,144

MAIL ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 747, FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA, USA 22040-0747

1. ☐ Enter the Amendment previously filed on _____, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 but unentered, in the prior application.
2. ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
3. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 form(s) are attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent is enclosed.

The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the claims existing in the prior application as amended at 1 and 2 above.

			LARGE ENTITY	SMALL ENTITY
BASIC FEE			\$760.00	\$380.00
	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE FEE	RATE FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	14- 20 =	0	x 18 = \$ 0	x 9 = \$
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	1- 3 =	0	x 78 = \$ 0	x 39 = \$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+ \$260.00	+ \$130.00
TOTAL			\$760.00	

5. Small entity status:

☐ A small entity statement is enclosed.

☐ A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.

☐ Is no longer claimed.

6. ☒ Priority of Application No. 8-283314 filed in Japan on October 4, 1996 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See attached copy of the Letter claiming priority filed in the prior application on December 3, 1997.
7. ☐ Priority of International Appln. _____ filed on _____ under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and _____ Application No. _____ filed in _____ on _____ under 35 U.S.C. § 119 are hereby reclaimed.

8. X Address all future communications to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

Telephone: (703) 205-8000

9. X The applicant hereby petitions for an extension of
two (2) months pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.17 and
1.136(a).

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

- X NO extensions of time have been previously obtained in
the prior application. Thus, a fee of \$ 380.00 is
required for the full period of the above-requested
extension of time.

 An extension of _____ month(s) was previously
requested and paid for on _____ in
the prior application. Thus, a fee of \$ _____ is
required to obtain an additional _____ month(s) in
order to establish copendency with the present
application.

10. X A check in the amount of \$ 1,140.00 is enclosed.

11. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount
of \$ _____. A triplicate copy of this request is
enclosed.

12. The filing fee is **NOT** attached. Please issue a Notice
requesting the filing fee.

13. Also enclosed herewith is the following:

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this,
concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees
required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

It is understood that secrecy under 35 U.S.C. § 122 is hereby
waived to the extent that if information or access is available to


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any one of the applications in the file wrapper of a 37 C.F.R. S 1.53(d) application, be it either this application or a prior application in the same file wrapper, the Patent and Trademark Office may provide similar information or access to all of the other applications in the same file wrapper.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

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Reg. No. 21,066

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